

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, and 6 - 18 remain in this application. Claims 14 - 18 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 2, 4, and 5 have been cancelled. Claims 1 and 3 have been amended. Reconsideration of this application in view of the amendments noted is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1 and 6 - 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hildebrand (U.S. Patent No. 3,763,726). However, claims 2 - 5 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were found allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Further, claim 13 has been allowed.

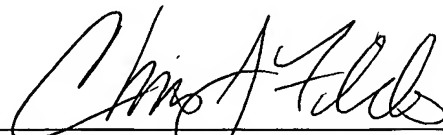
The limitations of allowable claims 2 and 4 have been added to independent claim 1, and claims 2 and 4 have been canceled accordingly. Therefore, claim 1 is allowable, and the claims depending from claim 1 are also allowable as depending from an allowable base claim. With respect to further amendments to the claims, claim 3 has been amended to depend from claim 1 rather than canceled claim 2, and claim 5 has been canceled since this claim is redundant in view of claim 3.

This amendment and request for reconsideration is felt to be fully responsive to the comments and suggestions of the examiner and to place this application in condition for allowance. Favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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